VAULT
M208

CATECHISM

ON THE

First Principles of the Gospel.

BAPTISM.

1. QUESTION.—What is the third principle of the gospel?
   ANSWER.—Baptism.
2. Q.—What is baptism for?
   A.—For the remission of sins, and that those who are baptized may become members of the Church of Jesus Christ.
3. Q.—How is baptism administered?
   A.—By immersion in water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
4. Q.—What do the scriptures call baptism?
   A.—The birth of water.
5. Q.—Is it necessary to be baptized in order to be saved?
   A.—Yes; Jesus informed Nicodemus so.
6. Q.—Can a man receive a remission of his sins in any other way than through baptism?
   A.—No, he cannot.
7. Q.—Who have a right to baptize for the remission of sins?
   A.—Those only who have the holy priesthood
8. Q.—Have all men holding portions of the holy priesthood, the authority from God to baptize?
   A.—No; teachers and deacons have not.
9. Q.—Can a man take this authority upon himself?
   A.—No; the scriptures say that no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that was called of God, as was Aaron.
10. Q.—How was Aaron called?
    A.—By direct revelation from God.
11. Q.—Will it avail a man to receive baptism from one having no authority?
    A.—No; it will not.
12. Q.—Where, in the scriptures, shall we find an instance to this effect?
    A.—In Acts, 19th chapter, where it is recorded that Paul baptized certain converts who had been baptized by some one without authority?
13. Q.—Is it necessary that little children should be baptized?
    A.—No; until they arrive at years of accountability or disc[illegible]n, they are free from sin.
14. Q.—Why are little children not required to be baptized?
    A.—Because Jesus has atoned for the original sin of our f[illegible]ents.

15. Q.—At what age has God commanded that children should be baptized?
A.—When they are eight years old.
16. Q.—What did the Prophet Mormon consider infant baptism?
A.—Solemn mockery before God.
17. Q.—What is baptism the symbol of?
A.—The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
18 Q.—As Jesus was without sin, why was it necessary for him to be baptized?
A.—To fulfill all righteousness, or to obey God's universal law.
19. Q.—Why are the living baptized for the dead?
A.—Because when they were living they had not the privilege of being baptized themselves.
20. Q.—Why, then, are the dead baptized for?
A.—That they may be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST

1. Q.—What is the fourth principle of the gospel?
A.—The conferring of the Holy Ghost.
2. Q.—How is this gift conferred upon man?
A.—By the laying on of the hands of the Elders.
3. Q.—What does Jesus call the gift of the Holy Ghost?
A.—The birth of the Spirit.
4. Q.—Is this gift or birth essential to salvation?
A.—Yes; Jesus says, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."
5. Q.—What is the Holy Ghost?
A.—A personage of Spirit, and one of the three constituting the Godhead.
6. Q.—By what other name is the Holy Ghost sometimes called?
A.—The Comforter, or the Holy Spirit of God.
7. Q.—What is the office of the Holy Ghost?
A.—To bring things past to our remembrance, and to reveal the things of God unto us.
8 Q.—What are some of its gifts and operations?
A.—Great faith, wisdom and knowledge, the gifts of prophecy, tongues, miracles and healings.
9. Q.—How should we live in order to obtain the gift of the Holy Ghost?
A.—We should live a Godlike and upright life.
10. Q.—Can a sinful man receive the gift of the Holy Ghost?
A.—No, he cannot; the Spirit of God will not dwell in unclean tabernacles.
11. Q.—How, then, can a man fit himself to receive the Holy Spirit?
A.—Be repenting of his sins and being baptized for their remission.

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